



## Teacher Tips: Working With a Student With a Disability

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1. At the beginning of each term, make a general announcement to your class regarding your willingness to discuss any student's special needs.
2. Provide students with a detailed course syllabus and make it available before classes start.
3. Announce reading assignments in advance especially for students using taped textbooks and materials.
4. Allow alternative testing methods e.g. oral exams, taped exams.

Note: The accommodations provided to the student with a disability merely assures that the student is being provided an equal opportunity not an unfair advantage, e.g. extended testing time.

5. Start lectures with a review of the prior session and provide an outline of material to be covered. At the end of the period, summarize key points.
6. Write new or technical vocabulary on the blackboard.
7. Provide study questions for exams that demonstrate the format as well as the content of the test. If essay items are given, explain what constitutes a good answer.
8. Reinforce lectures or discussions by putting major topics or outlines of the material on the board.
9. Encourage students to ask questions during or after class to ensure that the material is being understood.
10. Give assignments in both written and oral form to avoid confusion.
11. When writing on the board, verbalize what is being written.
12. In discussions, or answering questions, restate the question before giving the answer.
13. If you have a deaf student in class with a sign language interpreter, address the student with your questions, not the interpreter. Remember, the interpreter's job is to translate what is spoken into sign language for the student.
14. Do not be afraid of saying or doing the wrong thing. Communication is key to your success in working with any student.
15. See every person with a disability as an individual. Do not overestimate their "limitations" or accommodate the student beyond what is reasonable.